

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine the
Commission's Future Energy Efficiency Policies,
Administration and Programs.

Rulemaking 01-08-028
(Filed August 23, 2001)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
GRANTING EXTENSIONS TO
TWO ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTERS**

This ruling grants the separate motions of the Electric & Gas Industries Association (EGIA) and Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium (GHPC) to extend the time previously granted for implementing specified energy efficiency programs.

EGIA. EGIA filed a motion on March 23, 2004 seeking an extension of time to complete its Residential High Efficiency HVAC Interest Rate Buy-Down Program. It proposes to extend the program completion date from June 2004 to March 1, 2005 or until all funds are used. EGIA explains that it lost six months of program implementation time due to delays in contract approval. This delay means the program cannot operate for two summers, as originally intended, without an extension of time. EGIA explains its program fills a need with regard to air conditioning systems, which contribute to high peak demand. Many of its customers are hard to reach. Granting this request would not require funding beyond what the Commission granted for this program.

NAESCO believes this program should not be granted an extension of time

because it has not performed well. It is premature to evaluate this program at this time. The Utility Reform Network and Natural Resources Defense Council support EGIA's requested extension of time because of its potential value during summer peak cooling periods. This ruling grants EGIA's motion to extend the program completion date from June 2004 to March 1, 2005. We reject EGIA's request to extend the program indefinitely with the option of "until all funds are used."

GHPC. GHPC filed a motion on March 23, 2004 seeking an extension of time to complete its information-only program in SCE's territory called "Program to Promote Geoexchange to SCE Customers." It proposes to extend the program completion date from June 2004 to October 30, 2004. The program provides information and training on geoexchange technologies in school buildings. GHPC states it has already begun work with 65 school districts. It explains that program implementation has taken longer than expected because of extended times for school planning, design, approval and construction processes. The program's short implementation period has therefore hampered implementation. GHPC explains that the program extension will allow it to complete projects already initiated. Granting this request would not require funding beyond what the Commission granted for this program.

NAESCO believes this program should not be granted an extension of time because it has not performed well. The GHPC program is "information only" program and, as such, is not subjected to the same cost effectiveness criteria as a hardware installation program. Commission staff confirms that GHPC has met or exceeded its informational program goals and complied with all reporting requirements so far. This ruling grants GHPC's motion.

IT IS RULED that:

1. The motion of the Electric & Gas Industries Association, dated March 23, 2004, seeking an extension of time to implement Residential High Efficiency HVAC Interest Rate Buy-Down Program to March 1, 2005 is granted; however, EGIA's request to extend the program indefinitely with the option of "until all funds are used" is denied.

2. The motion of Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium, dated March 23, 2004 seeking an extension of time to complete its information-only program in SCE's territory called "Program to Promote Geoexchange to SCE Customers" is granted.

Dated April 12, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ KIM MALCOLM BY LTC

Kim Malcolm
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Granting Program Extension to the California Integrated Waste Management Board on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated April 12, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH LEWIS
Elizabeth Lewis

NOTICE

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